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**Strykehorse Soldiers to participate in bi-lateral exercise in India**

United States Army, Pacific Public Affairs

**FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii** – Seventeen Strykers from the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Brigade Combat Team, are scheduled to participate in the only bi-lateral exercise with the Indian Army, in Babina, India, Oct. 12-29.

The exercise, YUDH ABHYAS, is a regularly-scheduled bilateral exercise hosted by the Indian Army. The exercise is designed to promote cooperation among the two militaries while sharing training, cultural exchanges and improving partnership readiness. This year the exercise will include a multi-echelon, full spectrum combined operation focusing on a United Nations Peace Keeping Operation scenario, while executing a maneuver live-fire exercise.

The 17 Stryker vehicles involved in the exercise represent the largest deployment of the vehicles outside of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom for the Pacific Rim forces.

“Though the Soldiers are the centerpiece of any combined training opportunity, the Strykers are not far behind, and are a critical part of the entire exercise,” said Lt. Col. James P. Isenhower III, commander, 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He added that Indian and U.S. forces will integrate the Strykers at every opportunity for combined, collective training.

“Because the U.S. unit is a Stryker formation, it will integrate them in every level of training and partnership,” he said. “It would be difficult to overstate the significance of this exercise.”

He emphasized that the primary focus was the strong commitment to partnership and professional exchange between the U.S. and Indian Armies. He also noted that the exercise constitutes the largest troop exchange since the YA partnership exercise commenced in 2004.

“Like many of our partner armies across the globe, the Indian Army specifically requested that the United States bring Strykers for this combined training exercise,” he said. “The vehicle itself, its digital capabilities, and the unique mindset and capacity for action of the Soldiers of a Stryker brigade make them a regular request for any combined training event abroad.”

The training schedule for the exercise is designed to allow both units to train toward greater full-spectrum combat proficiency. “This event isn’t just an exchange, but an opportunity to conduct realistic, combined, multi-echelon training,” he added.

Like any other Theater Security Cooperation Program, YA also allows the participants from both armies to train together, share tactics, techniques and procedures, develop increased interoperability, and enjoy an enriched appreciation for each other’s culture and professional traditions.

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